

From: Stacey Tarbell
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

December 20, 2001

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Subject: U.S. v. Microsoft
By Email

Dear Attorney Hesse:

The Department of Justice Antitrust Division is accepting public comment in the settlement between the United States government and the Microsoft Corporation until the end of January 2002. I write to offer my support of the settlement.

Although I do not work in the high technology industry, I can see the benefits it has had in our country, specifically those of Microsoft. In the span of a few short years, this company has totally transformed how Americans communicate in business and in their private lives. Microsoft has brought worker efficiency to a level that was never dreamed of when we were all using typewriters and calculators.

If any of Microsofts competitors could even come close to a product that could rival Excel, Word or PowerPoint, consumers would have a real choice. Since no other company can even come close, consumers chose Microsoft. As a result, its competitors have chosen to try and defeat them in the courtroom, rather than the marketplace. They are co-opting the governments resources because they really have no alternative to compete with other than their inferior products.

It is a shame that the government has fallen prey to the special interests of Microsofts competitors. Through this settlement, we have the opportunity to

finally put an end to what has already been a case
that has gone on too long.

I urge you to settle this case once and for all.
Consumers, families and the marketplace deserve
nothing less.

Sincerely,

Stacey Tarbell

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